tterney's Docket No. 9040-7

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK

Thomas Boucino

erial No.:

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June 9, 2000 COMMUNICATIONS CABLES WITH ISOLATORS

Date: February 19, 2002

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED 17 OCTOBER 2001

Sir:

This response is submitted in reply to the Official Action dated 17 October 2001 ("the Action"). Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections set forth in the Action be reconsidered in view of the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims to the form set forth hereinbelow; changes to each claim are indicated in the attached appendix entitled "Version Marked to Indicate Changes".

(twice amended) A communications cable comprising: a cable jacket;

a spacer extending within kaid cable jacket, the spacer being formed of and having an outer surface of a polymeric material and having a longitudinally extending center portion and plurality of longitudinally extending wall portions radiating from said center portion, the longitudinally extending wall portions having a first radial section that increases in thickness with distance from the center portion and a second radial section that decreases in thickness with distance from the center portion, the spacer and the cable jacket defining a plurality of compartments within the cable jacket; and

a twisted pair of insulated conductors disposed in at least one of the compartments.